

26 JAN 1976

*In OGA*

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Cover and Commercial Staff  
General Counsel  
✓Legislative Counsel  
Director of Security

SUBJECT : Council on Environmental Quality Proposed  
Recommendations for Review of Federal  
Environmental Impact Statement Processes

REFERENCE : Ltr dtd 21 Jan 76 to Mr. Malcolm F. Baldwin  
fr D/L, Same Subject

1. In a 12 December 1975 memorandum to Federal Agency National Environmental Protection Act liaison officers, the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) submitted lengthy proposed revisions to the Federal agency environmental impact statement process (Attachment 2) for review and comment. As you are undoubtedly aware, the Agency's activities within CONUS have had relatively little environmental impact, most of it related to construction or classified document disposal processes. Accordingly, environmental impact analyses of statements have not presented major administrative or security problems to date. The attached proposal, however, would appear to present potential present and future security problems in two major areas if the recommendations are adopted. Specifically, the recommendation to extend the environmental assessment process to overseas activities [Section III.G.(5)] and the recommendation (under "Legislative EISS") to correlate the appropriation process with public environmental analyses [Section III.G.(5)] would both appear to present possible significant problems to the Agency and/or its covering agencies.

2. Because of the limited time frame for review and analysis, an initial reply has been forwarded to CEQ (Attachment 1). This reply was telephonically coordinated with Mr. Malcolm Baldwin, the CEQ addressee. Mr. Baldwin (who holds a Top Secret clearance and is being processed for an Agency liaison clearance) was apprised that further internal coordination was required before the scope and detail of Agency implementing procedures could be established. Also, using the Agency cleared Environmental Protection Agency liaison officer, initial contact points have been established with environmental liaison officers in the Department of State (DOS) and Department of Defense (DOD). Through these contacts, DOS and DOD responses to the CEQ proposal will be obtained for comparison. These responses will be distributed to the addressees when received.

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3. It is requested that the CEQ proposal be reviewed with regard to possible impact on individual areas of responsibilities. It is expected that Mr. Baldwin will be available to assist in review and possible modification of existing, Agency, published, environmental procedures in approximately 30 days. Accordingly, addressee comments on the proposed revisions should be forwarded to this Office by 13 February. When a firm meeting date with Mr. Baldwin is established, addressees will be advised. If further information is required, please call [redacted], Chief, Real Estate and Construction Division, on extension [redacted]

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Signed [redacted]

Michael J. Malanick  
Director of Logistics

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2 Atts:

Att 1 - Reference

Att 2 - CEQ Proposal